**Template press release for MPs**

[Insert Date]

**[INSERT NAME OF MP] PLEDGES TO CAMPAIGN FOR IMPROVED SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY ACCESS AND PROMOTE COMMUNICATION INCLUSION**

[Insert name of MP] has today pledged to advocate for better access to speech and language therapy services and be communication inclusive.

As part of this commitment, [Insert name of MP] has undertaken to:

* Undertake and promote the Communication Access training, including ensuring their staff also complete the free, online training, to deliver more inclusive practices for constituents with communication disability, difficulty, or difference.
* Advocate for improved access to speech and language therapy services, raising the profile of this vital issue in Parliament. The need for investment in speech and language therapy services was highlighted by a petition on the Parliament website that secured over 10,000 signatures in just over two weeks earlier this year. [Insert name of MP] has pledged to explore opportunities for this issue to be debated, recognising the significant public support.

By committing to be both communication inclusive and a champion for speech and language therapy, [Insert name of MP] is dedicated to ensuring that all their constituents, regardless of their communication and/or swallowing needs, have the opportunity fully to engage in society.

Further information: [Add MP’s office contact details.]

**Notes to Editors**

For information about the Communication Access training and how to display the Communication Access symbol, visit: <https://communication-access.co.uk/>

For information about the petition on the Parliament website, visit: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/657935>

**About the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists**

The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) is the professional body for speech and language therapists in the UK, representing over 20,000 members. It facilitates and promotes research into the field of speech and language therapy – the care for individuals with communication, swallowing, eating and drinking difficulties. It promotes better education and training of speech and language therapists and is responsible for setting and maintaining high standards in education, clinical practice and ethical conduct. For more information visit [www.rcslt.org](http://www.rcslt.org/) and follow @RCSLTpolicy and @GivingVoiceUK on X.